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ABSTRACT

This publication describes the Chinese Treasure Chest project, an exploratory Chinese language and culture program developed by two elementary school teachers in the Aleutians East Borough (Alaska) School District. The project centers on the use of a large box of materials and a program plan designed to introduce elementary students in kindergarten through grade 6 to beginning Chinese language instruction through integrated, hands-on activities across-the-curriculum. The multi-media resource kit was designed so that it can be easily used by elementary school teachers without previous backgrounds or training in foreign language instruction. Following an introduction is a description of how the kit is organized and a series of notes for users. An overview section displays the contents of the kit, which contains nine sections, or "boxes", primarily by presenting reproductions of photographs with very brief description of each "box." The heart of the treasure chest is a resource file box that contains laminated information cards, activity sheets, background reading, project samples, photos, patterns, and related Chinese vocabulary. The other boxes contain materials relating to the following topics: (1) Chinese language; (2) Chinese Literature; (3) arts and crafts; (4) mathematics; (5) science; (6) social studies; (7) cooking; (8) sports and games; (9) health; (10) music; and (11) Chinese New Year. This report's final section presents photographs of students from Sand Point School (Alaska) participating in a Chinese Spring Festival. Also included are two charts displaying the overall organization of the kit and the program with all components and the contents of each component listed. (JB)

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Chinese Treasure Chest

An Integrated Exploratory Chinese Language & Culture Program

Developed By

Inge-Lise Jensen
Yen-ti Verg-in

Aleutians East Borough School District
Sand Point School
Sand Point, Alaska

October, 1991

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Introduction to the

"CHINESE TREASURE CHEST"

An Integrated Exploratory Chinese Language & Culture Program

The goal of the Chinese Treasure Chest project was to develop an exploratory Chinese language and culture program that would introduce elementary students in grades K-6 to beginning Chinese language instruction through integrated, hands-on activities across-the-curriculum. This multi-media Chinese resource kit was designed so that it could easily be used by elementary teachers without previous background or training in foreign language instruction.

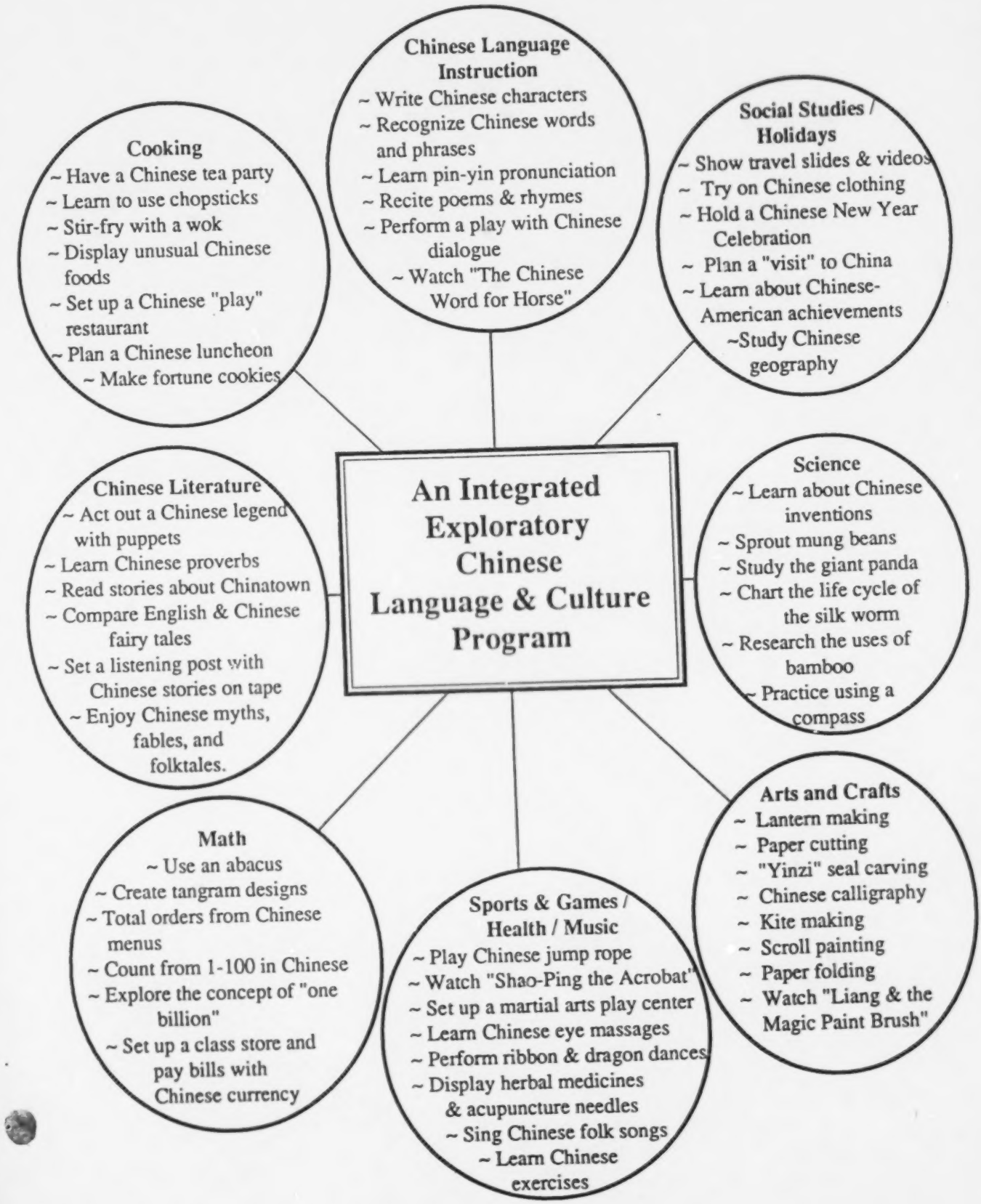
The Chinese Treasure Chest introduces and explores Chinese language and culture by investigating such topics such as Chinese inventions, holidays, cooking, songs, games, geography, and arts and crafts. Oral and written Chinese language is introduced in the context of these topics (and not as a separate, isolated subject), making this beginning foreign language exposure both relevant and purposeful for young children.

Laminated project cards offer background information, activity ideas, and related Chinese vocabulary. Hands-on materials such as calligraphy brushes, Chinese jump ropes, chopsticks, puppets, lanterns, clothing, and samples of unusual Chinese foods are included as support materials in the kit. In addition, there are cassette recordings, video tapes, computer disks, a Chinese slide presentation, and a fine selection of both fiction and non-fiction books about China. Multiple copies of several titles (with teacher's guides) are included for small group Chinese literature studies.

The Chinese Treasure Chest project was developed in 1990-91 by two elementary teachers from the Aleutians East Borough School District. Two Chinese Treasure Chest resource kits were produced. One kit was made for the Aleutians East Borough School District, and one kit was made to circulate statewide. The Chinese Treasure Chest project was made possible by a grant from the Alaska Department of Education.

We would like to thank all of the students, teachers, parents, and administrators who field-tested our activities and provided input and feedback that helped to make this project successful. We hope that the materials in the Chinese Treasure Chest will be useful in helping to increase student awareness and respect for our Asian neighbors, and in kindling interest and enthusiasm among young children for continued foreign language study in the future.

Inge-Lise Jensen
Yen-ti Ver-gin
Chinese Treasure Chest Project Developers


An Integrated Exploratory Chinese Language & Culture Program
Chinese Language Instruction
~ Write Chinese characters
~ Recognize Chinese words and phrases
~ Learn pin-yin pronunciation
~ Recite poems & rhymes
~ Perform a play with Chinese dialogue
~ Watch "The Chinese Word for Horse"
Social Studies / Holidays
~ Show travel slides & videos
~ Try on Chinese clothing
~ Hold a Chinese New Year Celebration
~ Plan a "visit" to China
~ Learn about Chinese-American achievements
~Study Chinese geography
Cooking
~ Have a Chinese tea party
~ Learn to use chopsticks
~ Stir-fry with a wok
~ Display unusual Chinese foods
~ Set up a Chinese "play" restaurant
~ Plan a Chinese luncheon
~ Make fortune cookies
Chinese Literature
~ Act out a Chinese legend with puppets
~ Learn Chinese proverbs
~ Read stories about Chinatown
~ Compare English & Chinese fairy tales
~ Set a listening post with Chinese stories on tape
~ Enjoy Chinese myths, fables, and folktales.
Science
~ Learn about Chinese inventions
~ Sprout mung beans
~ Study the giant panda
~ Chart the life cycle of the silk worm
~ Research the uses of bamboo
~ Practice using a compass
Math
~ Use an abacus
~ Create tangram designs
~ Total orders from Chinese menus
~ Count from 1-100 in Chinese
~ Explore the concept of "one billion"
~ Set up a class store and pay bills with Chinese currency
Sports & Games / Health / Music
~ Play Chinese jump rope
~ Watch "Shao-Ping the Acrobat"
~ Set up a martial arts play center
~ Learn Chinese eye massages
~ Perform ribbon & dragon dances
~ Display herbal medicines & acupuncture needles
~ Sing Chinese folk songs
~ Learn Chinese exercises
Arts and Crafts
~ Lantern making
~ Paper cutting
~ "Yinzi" seal carving
~ Chinese calligraphy
~ Kite making
~ Scroll painting
~ Paper folding
~ Watch "Liang & the Magic Paint Brush"

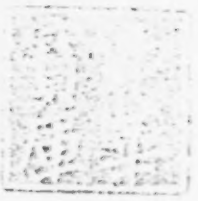
How The Chinese Treasure Chest Kit Is Organized

The "heart" of the Chinese Treasure Chest is a large grey **RESOURCE FILE BOX** that contains laminated information cards, activity sheets, background reading, project samples, photos, patterns, and related Chinese vocabulary. All materials in the Chinese Treasure Chest belong to one of these eleven subject areas:

- ~ Social Studies
- ~ Arts & Crafts
- ~ Sports & Games
- ~ Chinese Literature
- ~ Math
- ~ Chinese Language
- ~ Health
- ~ Holidays
- ~ Science
- ~ Cooking
- ~ Music

The subjects are alphabetized and separated by hanging files in the **RESOURCE FILE BOX**. Within each subject area are colored file folders containing laminated cards with background information about related topics. (The MATH file, for example, contains folders with the topics, "Chinese Money", "Tangrams", "Abacus", and "Chinese Numbers".) The first folder in each subject is labeled with a **red dot** ●, and contains laminated "Activity Cards", "Chinese Vocabulary Cards", and an "Inventory Sheet" listing all of the materials in the kit relating to that subject. The reproducible patterns, project samples, background reading, and activity sheets for each subject area are stored in brown expanding folders at the back of each hanging file in the **RESOURCE FILE BOX**.

All materials in the Chinese Treasure Chest have been labeled and stamped with the red emblem on the right. This is a Chinese "yinzi" seal which stamps the name of this project, "Chinese Treasure Chest", in Chinese characters. A label beside this red seal identifies the box or file where each item is to be replaced after using.



There are nine boxes that house the Chinese Treasure Chest project. One box is the grey plastic **RESOURCE FILE BOX**, another is a large red flat box that holds all of the kit's posters and picture boards, and the other six house the kit's assortment of books, videos, and "hands-on" learning materials. An inventory of each box's contents is taped on the inside flap of every box. Whenever possible, items have been packed in plastic bags and labeled for easy identification.

NOTES FOR USERS OF THE CHINESE TREASURE CHEST KIT:

* Please fill out the enclosed inventory sheets before and after using the Chinese Treasure Chest kit. A laminated inventory sheet can be found in the introductory folder for each subject area in the **RESOURCE FILE BOX**. Please xerox this inventory and use it to keep track of the many items in the kit.

* All printed materials in this kit are laminated to preserve them. These laminated "masters" can easily be xeroxed for classroom use. PLEASE RETURN ALL LAMINATED "MASTERS" TO THE KIT WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED USING THEM.

* Repack all materials in the original labeled bags and return them to the proper files or boxes.

* Carefully re-seal the ziploc bags in the COOKING and HEALTH boxes to preserve the food samples and traditional medicines.

* Make sure that "messy" materials, such as the papermaking kit, calligraphy brushes, sprouting equipment, and cookware are all clean and dry before repacking.

* Some of the items in the kit are labeled as "**CONSUMABLE**". Please use only what you need for your classroom. (Most food items in the kit are for display purposes only. The only foods in the kit that are consumable are the fortune cookies, New Year candies, and the tea.)

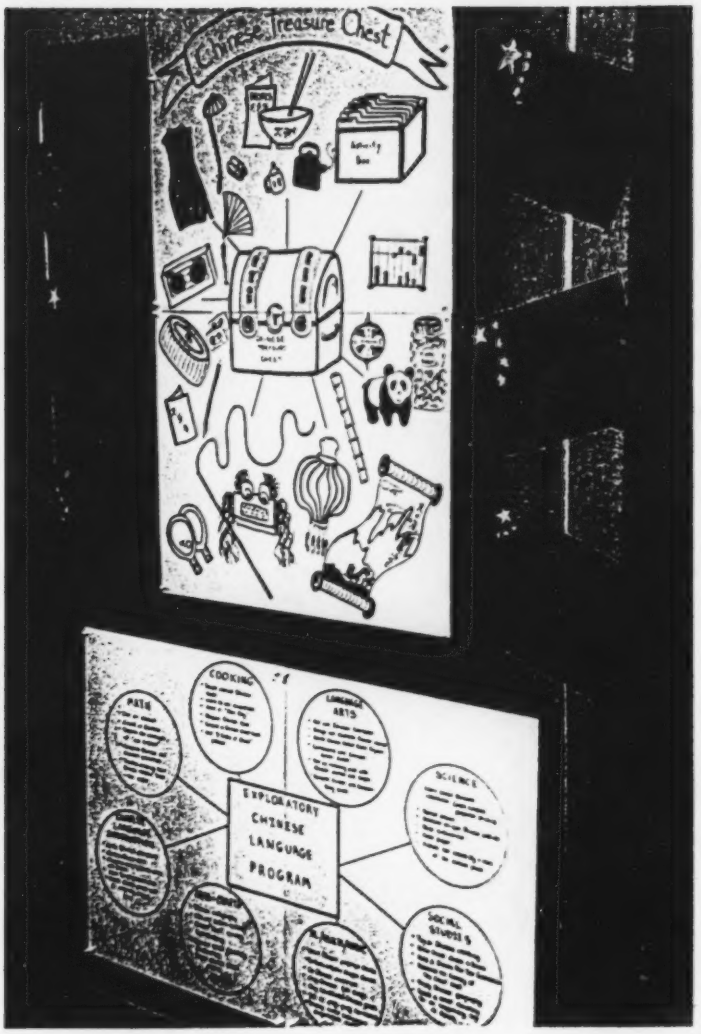
* Chinese resource books and some specialty items such as the lion dance costume, a gong, cymbals, and a bamboo steamer are available from Sand Point School. (These materials are all listed on the INVENTORY sheets.) To borrow any of these items, contact:

Librarian
Sand Point School
Box 269
Sand Point, Alaska 99661
(907) 383-2393

Overview of the Contents

of

THE CHINESE TREASURE CHEST



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The Chinese Treasure Chest is divided into 11 different subject areas:

Math, Social Studies, Arts & Crafts, Science, Chinese Language, Cooking, Music, Holidays, Sports & Games, Chinese Literature, and Health.

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CHINESE TREASURE CHEST

... AN INTEGRATED EXPLORATORY CHINESE LANGUAGE & CULTURE PROGRAM

For Elementary Students

Resource File Box
- Information Cards
- Activity Cards
- Inventory Sheets
- Chinese Vocabulary
- Activity Packets

Chinese Language Box
- Computer Diskettes
- Flashcards
- Calligraphy Copy Books
- Video & Cassette Tapes
- Books & Magazines

Chinese Literature Box
- Chinese Books:
  - ~Non-fiction
  - ~Fiction
  - ~Folktales
  - ~Proverbs

Arts and Crafts Box
- Kites, Lanterns, Paintings
- Calligraphy Brushes
- Origami & Rice Paper
- Videos, Books, & Posters
- Paper Cutting Patterns

Math Box
- Abacuses & Worksheets
- Tangrams & Patterns
- Number Flashcards
- Counting Books
- Chinese Currency

Science Box
- Mung Beans for Sprouting
- Rocket Set & Compasses
- Silk & Pandas Posters
- Paper Making Kit
- Video, Books, & Posters

Social Studies Box
- Slide Presentation w/Tape
- Hats, Shoes, & Dresses
- Maps, Posters, & Books
- Video & Photo Album
- Fans & Paper Umbrella

Cooking Box
- Wok, Chopsticks, Utensils
- Tea Set & Fortune Cookies
- Food & Rice Samples
- Rice Bowls & Spoons
- Recipes & Menus

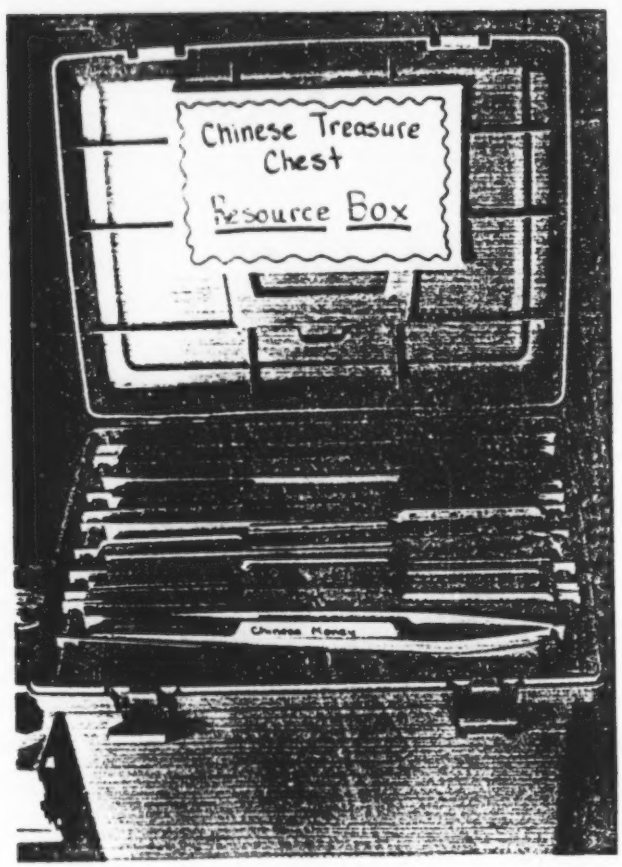
Sports and Games Box
- Chinese Jump Ropes
- Ribbon Dance Wands
- Games & Ping-Pong Set
- Chinese Exercise Tapes
- Kung Fu Suits & Shoes
- Dolls, Toys, & Games

Health Box
- Herbal Medicine Display
- Massage Tools
- Health Balls
- Tiger Balm
- Acupuncture Needles
- Eye Massage Posters

Music Box
- Music Tapes
- Opera Masks
- Song Books
- Kung Fu Drums
- Chinese Opera Posters

Chinese New Year Box
- Lanterns & Decorations
- Red Banners
- New Year Candies
- Chinese Zodiac Posters
- "Lucky Money" Envelopes

The heart of the Chinese Treasure Chest project is the RESOURCE BOX. This file box contains laminated information cards, activities, patterns, and Chinese vocabulary sheets.



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Chinese Treaure Chest

RESOURCE BOX Contents

Arts & Crafts
- ~ Arts & Crafts Introduction
- ~ Calligraphy
- ~ Kites
- ~ Paper Cutting
- ~ Scroll Painting
- ~ Yinzi Carving
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

Cooking
- ~ Cooking Introduction
- ~ Bird's Nest Soup
- ~ Chinese Cuisine
- ~ Chopsticks
- ~ Fortune Cookies
- ~ Rice
- ~ Tea
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

Literature
- ~ Chinese Literature Introduction
- ~ Confucius
- ~ Chinese Literature
- ~ Chinese Proverbs

Chinese Language
- ~ Chinese Language Introduction
- ~ Chinese Language
- ~ Chinese Names
- ~ Pinyin
- ~ Spoken Chinese
- ~ Written Chinese
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

Music
- ~ Music Introduction
- ~ Musical Instruments
- ~ Chinese Opera

Science
- ~ Science Introduction
- ~ Bamboo
- ~ Bean Sprouts
- ~ Chinese Inventions
- ~ Pandas
- ~ Chinese Pets
- ~ Silk
- ~ Wildlife
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

Math
- ~ Math Introduction
- ~ Abacus
- ~ Money
- ~ Numbers
- ~ Tangrams
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

Health
- ~ Health Introduction
- ~ Health Balls
- ~ Therapeutic Massage
- ~ Traditional Medicine

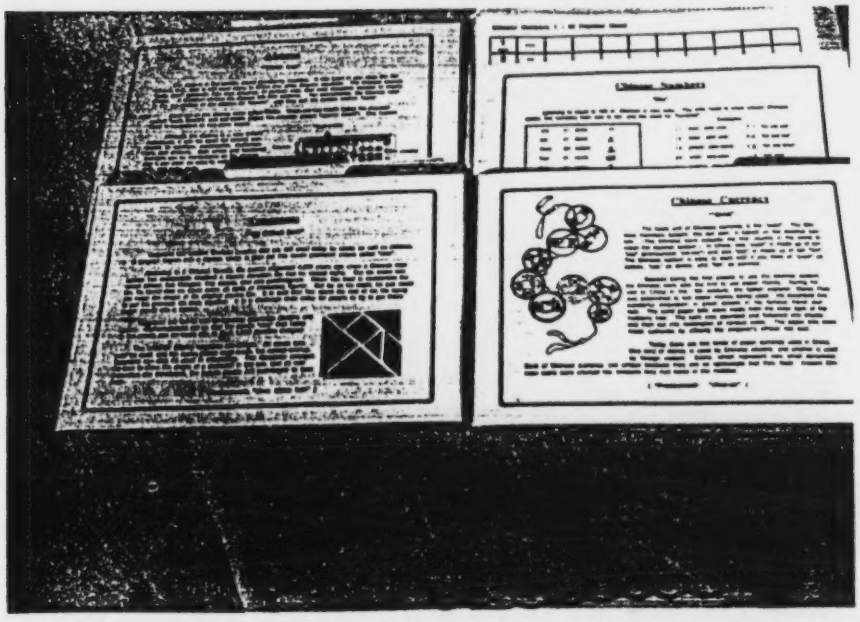
Holidays
- ~ Holidays Introduction
- ~ Animal Zodiac
- ~ Chinese New Year
- ~ Dragon Boat Festival
- ~ Dragon Dance
- ~ Lantern Festival
- ~ Lion Dance
- ~ Moon Festival
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

Social Studies
- ~ Social Studies Introduction
- ~ Ancestor Worship
- ~ Chinatown
- ~ Chinese Americans
- ~ Chinese-American History
- ~ Ethnic Groups
- ~ Foot Binding
- ~ Chinese Geography
- ~ Great Wall (The)
- ~ Religion
- ~ Miscellaneous Social Studies
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

Sports & Games
- ~ Sports & Games Introduction
- ~ Acrobats
- ~ Asian Games
- ~ Chinese Exercises
- ~ Chinese Games
- ~ Jump Rope
- ~ Martial Arts
- ~ Ribbon Dance
- ~ Taiji Quan
- ~ Table Tennis
- ~ Shuttlecock
- ~ ACTIVITY PACKET

MATH

The MATH box in the kit contains samples of Chinese currency, tangram puzzle sets, abacuses, Chinese number flash-cards, and Chinese counting books.



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SOCIAL STUDIES

The SOCIAL STUDIES box in the kit contains Chinese maps, flags, postcards, Buddha statues, incense, a Chinese slide show, a video film, posters of Chinese Americans, a Chinatown photo album, books, fans, and samples of authentic Chinese clothing.

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SOCIAL STUDIES BOX

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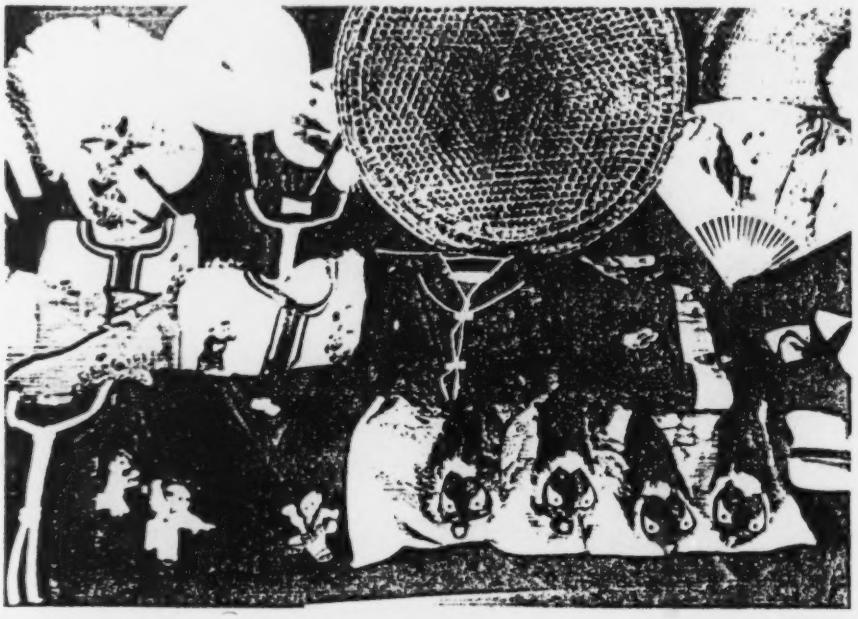
SOCIAL STUDIES BOX



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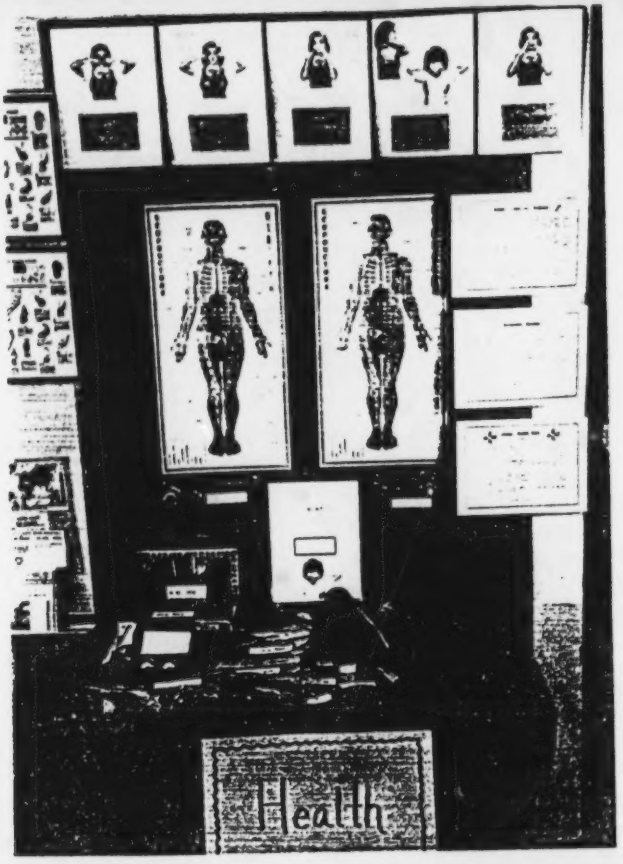

HEALTH

The HEALTH box in the kit contains samples of traditional Chinese medicines, an acupuncture chart and acupuncture needles, Chinese eye massage posters, health balls, a bamboo back scratcher, Tiger Balm, and assorted massage tools.

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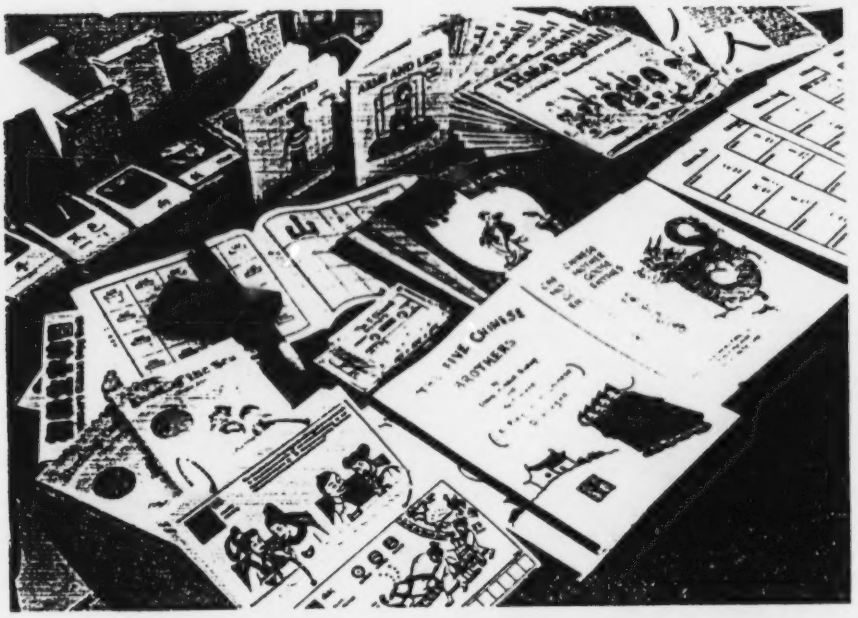

CHINESE LANGUAGE

The CHINESE LANGUAGE box contains Chinese flashcards, computer disks for learning spoken and written Chinese, Chinese newspapers, magazines,and storybooks, a play with Chinese dialogue, calligraphy practice books, and Chinese Mother Goose verses.

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SPORTS AND GAMES

The SPORTS AND GAMES box contains ping-pong sets, hand puppets, Chinese jump ropes, dolls, Kung-fu outfits and gear, ribbon dance wands, a Chinese acrobat video, Chinese checkers, marionettes, wooden toys, and a Chinese exercise tape.

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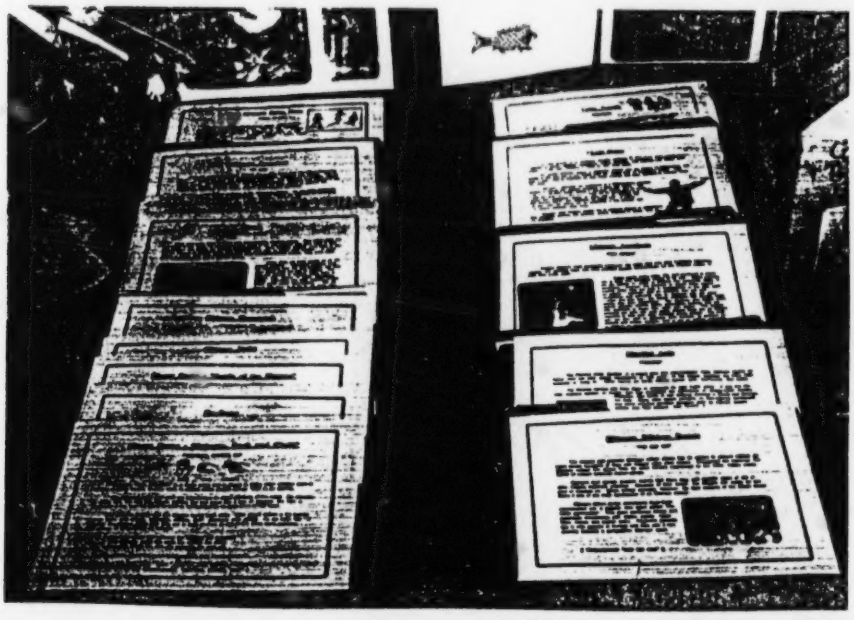
SPORTS AND GAMES



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SCIENCE

The SCIENCE box contains compasses, a bean sprouting kit, panda posters, books about rice, silkworms, and pandas, a rocketry set, "Playful Panda" video, panda rubber stamps, Chinese invention stories, and a Chinese wildlife poster.

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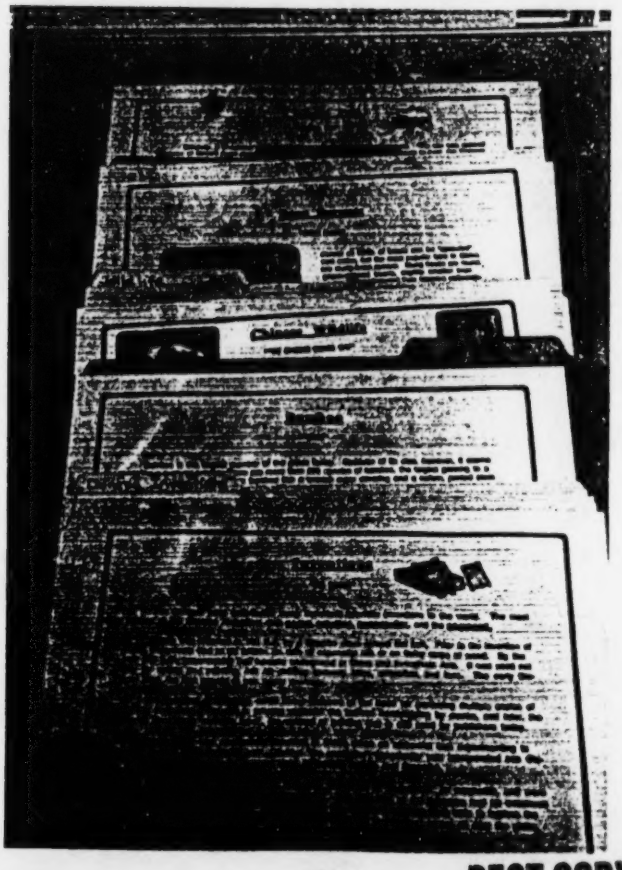
SCIENCE



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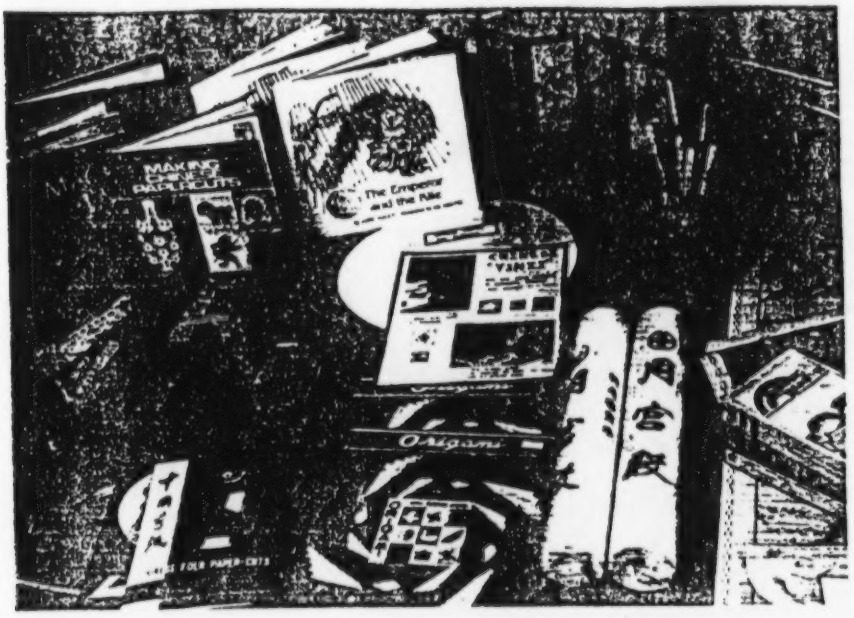
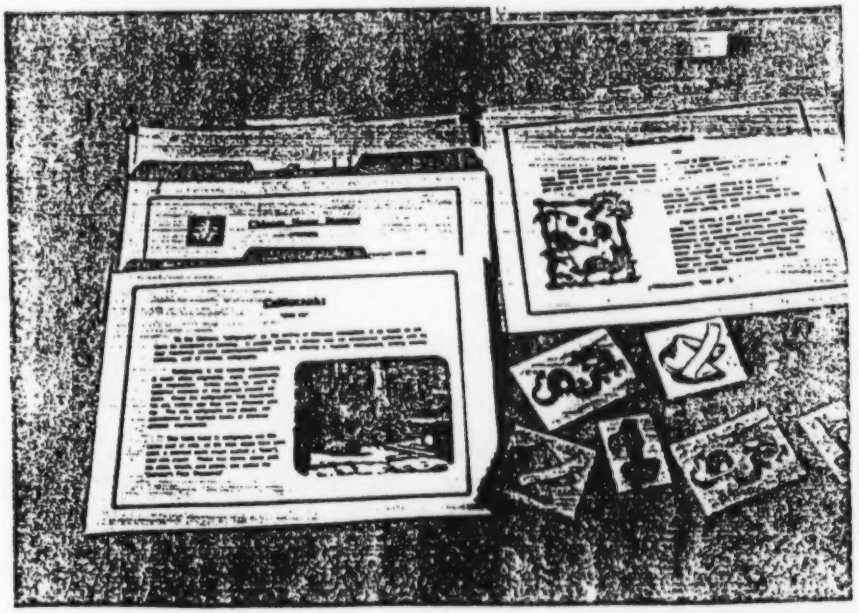
COOKING

The COOKING box contains an electric wok, tea set, Chinese lunch box, chopsticks, rice bowls, Chinese cookbooks, menus, tea, fortune cookies, a box of "rice products", and samples of unusual Chinese foods.



ARTS AND CRAFTS

The ARTS AND CRAFTS box contains calligraphy brushes, traditional ink slab and ink sticks, samples of Chinese papercuts, rice paper, bamboo scroll, video films featuring Chinese artisans, and "yinzi" stamps and traditional vermillion ink.



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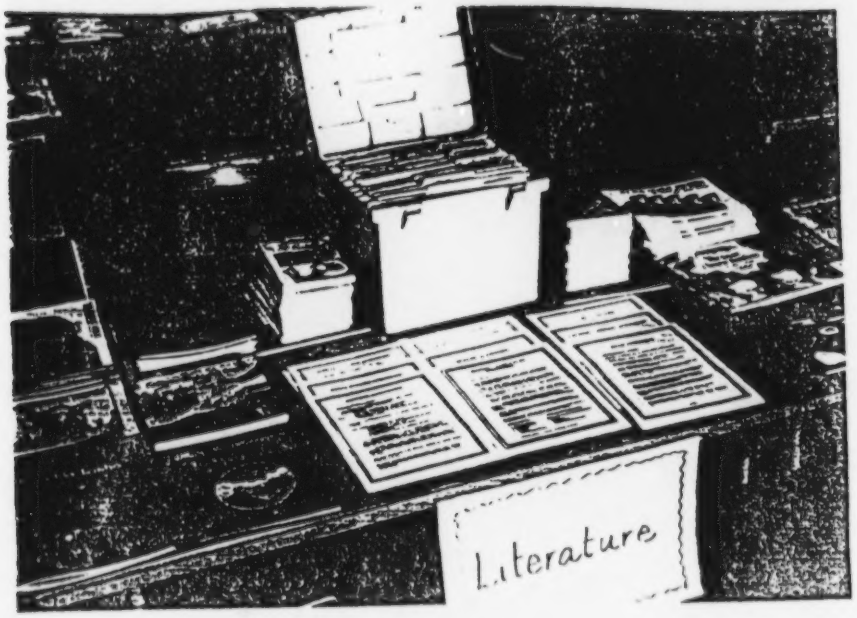

CHINESE LITERATURE

The CHINESE LITERATURE box contains a wide variety of Chinese folktales, myths, legends, fables, and fairy tales, stories from Chinatown, Chinese proverbs, and books with corresponding story tapes. (There are multiple copies of some titles in the kit.)

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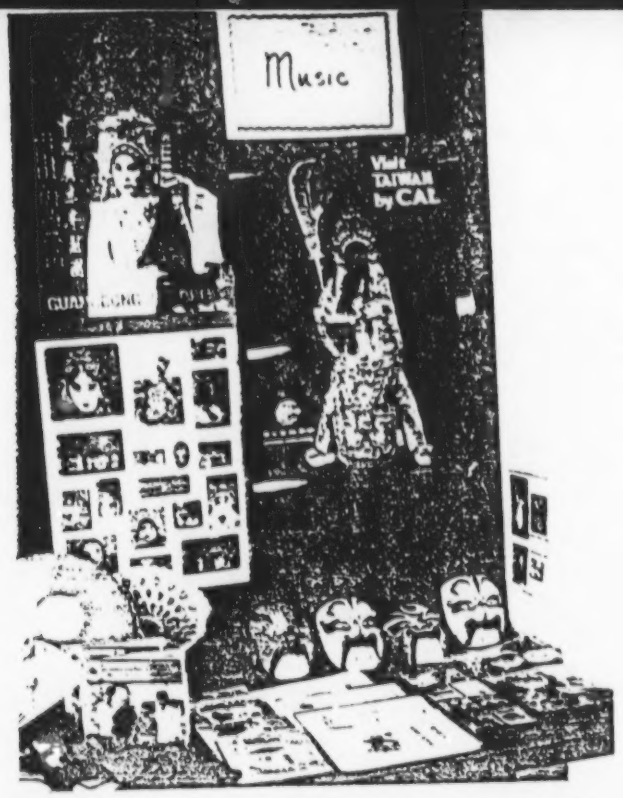

MUSIC

The MUSIC box contains Chinese opera masks and posters, song books, kung-fu drums, and cassette tapes of Chinese music.

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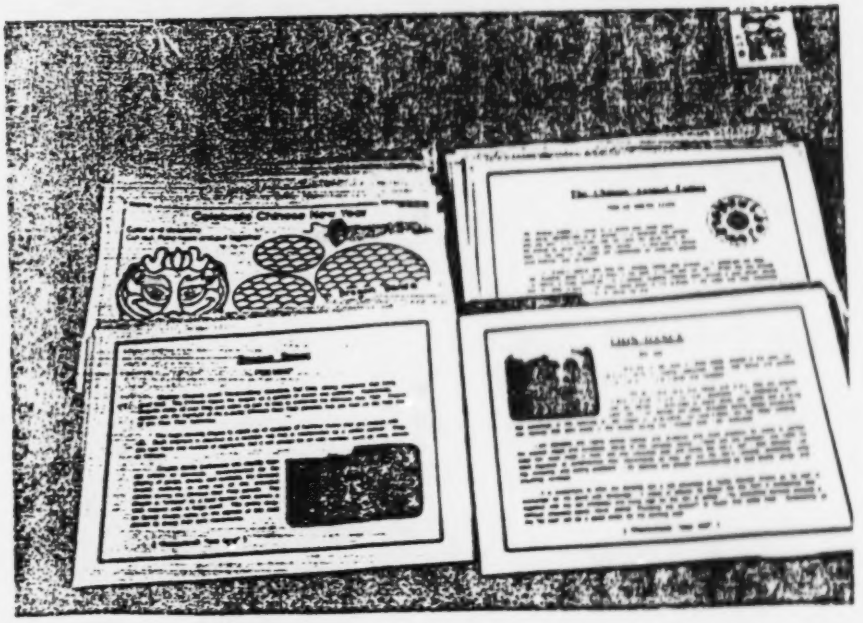
HOLIDAYS

The HOLIDAY box contains decorative lanterns, Chinese zodiac posters, New Year banners, a lion puppet, a rubber stamp dragon, Chinese calendar, red "lucky money" envelopes, New Year candles, a gong, cymbals, and a Chinese lion dance costume.



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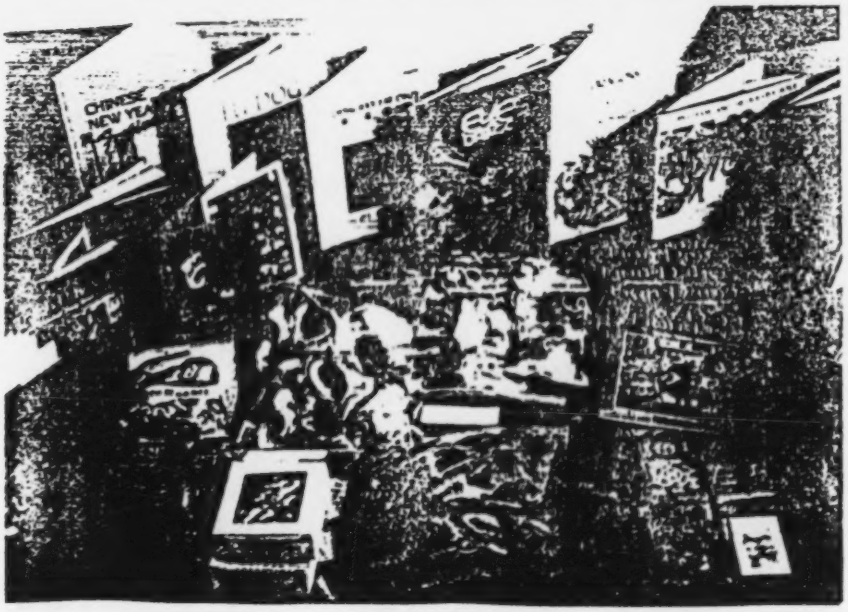
HOLIDAYS



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The following pages show some of the Chinese Treasure Chest piloting activities at Sand Point School during the 1990-91 school year. The entire elementary school was involved in a "Chinese Spring Festival" featuring Chinese songs and Mother Goose verses, ribbon dances, and a demonstration of traditional Chinese exercises.

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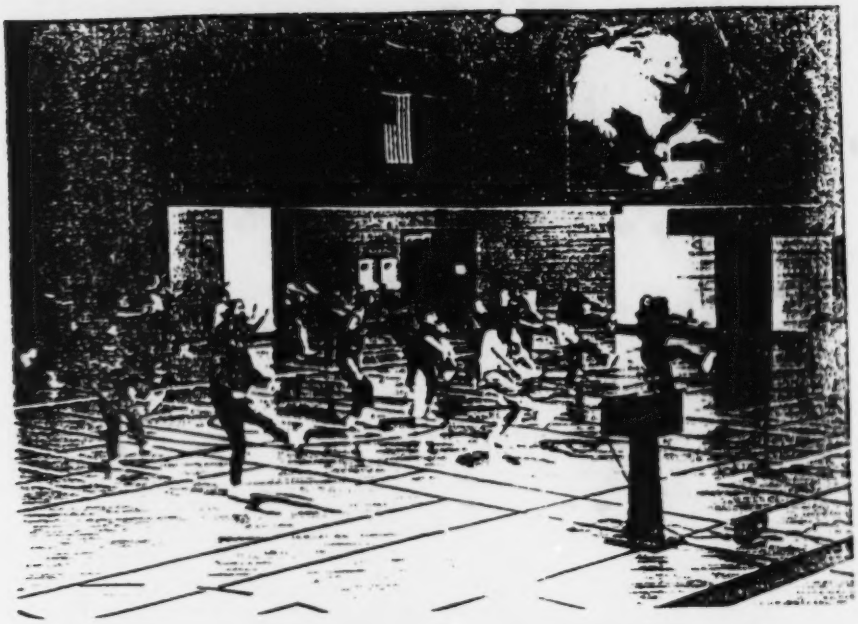

CHINESE SPRING FESTIVAL

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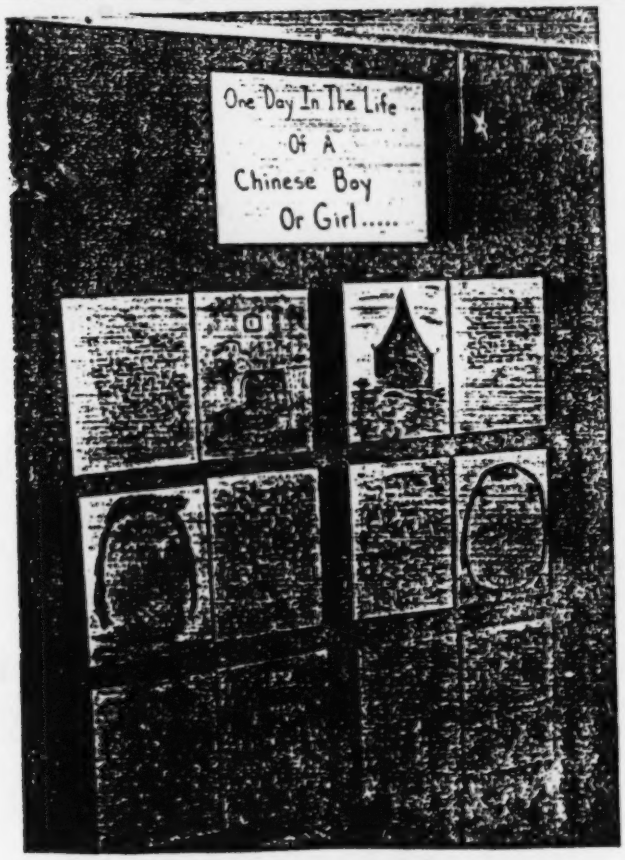
CHINESE TREASURE CHEST

PILOTING ACTIVITIES



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CHINESE FASHION SHOW

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